

Isiah Leggett
County Executive

James L. Stowe Director

August 26, 2016

Dear Principals, Counselors, Teachers and Parents,

The Montgomery County Office of Human Rights (OHR) is again pleased to announce that our Human Right Camp for this fall is set for October 21-23, 2016. Our office is asking for your continued support by encouraging participation in this successful and worthwhile program.

The Montgomery County Human Rights Commission will fund this special program which includes transportation, activity materials, meals and refreshments.

Registration will be open to all fifth grade students who attend Montgomery County elementary schools. However, only 40 students (20 boys and 20 girls) will be selected to participate in the 3-day camp. The deadline for registration will be Friday, September 30, 2016.

The camp will take place at the YMCA's Camp Letts facility in Edgewater, Maryland (near Annapolis). Students will depart from the Office of Human Rights 21 Maryland Avenue by MCPS bus on Friday October 21, 2016 at 9:45 a.m. and return to Office of Human Rights on Sunday October 23, 2016 at 2:45 p.m. Students will be responsible for their personal toiletries, clothing and bedding.

Selections will be made from the list of students who apply however we are committed to have the most diverse group as possible to insure the objectives of the camp are met. We will assess the candidates who apply but may ask your support in identifying other potential candidates to fill any available slots to insure diversity.

Student's selections will be based upon students who have demonstrated the following characteristics:

Students who have consistently demonstrated small and large acts of kindness and respect for alienated or neglected students and/or community members or people who may be perceived as "different";

Students whose actions or words have broken barriers between groups, increased the representation of under-represented groups in activities, healed divisiveness among groups and who otherwise acted responsibly to promote respect and bridge differences;

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Students who have taken moral stances on issues that might otherwise have been neglected;

Students who have initiated or modified existing programs or projects or taken action by themselves to respond to current school and community needs.

Teachers, counselors and administrators may also recommend students who have exhibited a need for diversity, tolerance or bully aversion training.

Space again is limited to only 40 students (20 boys and 20 girls); selected students will be notified by mail. Those students not selected will be notified by school counselors.

THE APPLICATION DEADLINE IS September 30, 2016... Please fax applications forms to:

Office of Human Rights 21 Maryland Avenue, Suite 330 Rockville, Maryland 20850 Attention: Beverly Marshall 240-777-8460

Application may also be submitted via email to: beverly.marshall@montgomerycountymd.gov <u>hrccamp@montgomerycountymd.gov</u>

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at (240) 777-8490 or Beverly Marshall at 240-777-8479. We believe that the Human Rights Camp will be an important catalyst toward minimizing intolerance and hate-motivate behavior in Montgomery County Public Schools.

We look forward to your participation and assistance in this worth while program. We appreciate your continued support on this special project.

Sincerely,

Jim Stowe, Director

Office of Human Rights